

ECONOMY

INTRODUCTION

"If a city is to serve its citizens, it needs a dynamic and diversified economic base - a base which will provide the population with a growing standard of living, and which will support public services on a scale commensurate with the needs and desires of an active and intelligent population. Economic growth alone will not produce the Great Society; either nationally or locally, but neither can you produce a Great Society without economic growth."² Although this passage refers to the city, it applies equally to Wayne County. Economic growth is not a cure-all for the county's problems, but without such growth the county's living standards will deteriorate. "Economic development affects everybody. It means more jobs, a growing community, a better life for all who live in a community. But this also means that economic development should not be the exclusive preserve of one segment of the community."³

"Industries which provide goods or services for sale to outsiders are considered basic industries. The more obvious case is a manufacturing plant which sells most or all of its product outside the community. Plants which process local raw materials - agricultural products, forest products, or minerals - for sale outside are also basic. . . Industries which provide shelter, goods, and services for the inhabitants and businesses in the community are called local service industries. As the number of jobs and annual earnings in basic industries rise, the demand for the product of the local service industries increases."⁴

²Harold W. Williams, What Every City Government Should Know About Economic Development, from Nation's Cities, June 1966.

³Ibid.

⁴Committee for Economic Development, Community Economic Development Efforts, Five Case Studies, December 1965, p. 18.